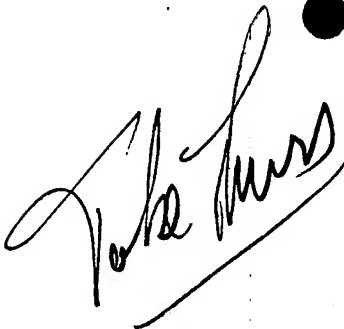


Tape 45

Side A, 1/4 - 3/16



MEMO FOR:

FROM: DCI

STAT

I wrote a letter to or received a letter from the Business Council people after my talk to them this spring (February, I think it was). I'd like to try to take those with me to the Business Council meeting this week, please.

ST

MEMO FOR DCI

VIA:



1. The only member of the Business Council who wrote you after your talk was George Stinson, Chairman National Steel Corp. His letter and your response are attached.

2. Also attached are two memos you dictated after the talk on comments by some members of the Council.

3. You may want to glance at the Q&A session after your talk to the Council at left.

Very respectfully,



Talks....

NEW YORK TIMES

OVERALL CEILING AS LONG AS MOSCOW FOLLOWS THROUGH AND ADOPTS THE AMERICAN POSITION - 1,200 - ON MISSILES WITH MULTIPLE WARHEADS.

TO CEMENT THIS ARRANGEMENT, OFFICIALS SAID, IT IS ALSO NECESSARY THAT THE TWO SIDES REACH AGREEMENT ON EXACTLY WHAT FORCES ARE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED TREATY. TO EASE THIS PROBLEM, THE ADMINISTRATION IS SAID TO HAVE RECENTLY AGREED THAT SOME 50 SOVIET BOMBERS THAT ARE NOW CONFIGURED AS TANKERS OR FOR USE IN NAVAL MISSIONS WOULD NOT BE INCLUDED UNDER THE NEW CEILING.

DESPITE THIS, THEY INDICATED THAT SOME ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS OF SPECIFYING WEAPONS MUST STILL BE RESOLVED BEFORE THE CEILING CAN BE FORMALLY ADOPTED. HOWEVER, THE OFFICIALS SAID THEY EXPECTED LITTLE TROUBLE IN RESOLVING THESE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT AN AGREEMENT OVER TOTAL NUMBERS SHOULD PROVIDE NEW MOMENTUM FOR TALKS UNDER WAY IN GENEVA AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER AGREEMENT LATER THIS MONTH WHEN VANCE IS EXPECTED TO MEET WITH GROMYKO IN NEW YORK. DURING VANCE'S MOSCOW VISIT, NEGOTIATORS ARE ALSO SAID TO HAVE MADE SOME PROGRESS ON THE ISSUE OF WHAT NEW MISSILES COULD BE DEPLOYED UNDER A NEW ACCORD AND HOW FAR EXISTING SYSTEMS COULD BE MODERNIZED.

ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS, THE UNITED STATES, IN A SHIFT IN A PREVIOUS POSITION, WAS PREPARED TO ALLOW MOSCOW TO DEPLOY A NEW, SINGLE-WARHEAD, LAND-BASED MISSILE IF WASHINGTON WAS ALLOWED TO GO AHEAD WITH A NEW LAND-BASED ROCKET EQUIPPED WITH MULTIPLE WARHEADS. MOSCOW DID NOT IMMEDIATELY ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL, THEY SAID, BUT IT HAS YET TO BE OFFICIALLY TURNED DOWN.

AT THE SAME TIME, THEY REPORTED THAT LITTLE PROGRESS WAS MADE ON THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL QUESTION STILL IN DISPUTE, THE TYPE OF RESTRICTIONS THAT WOULD BE PLACED ON THE SOVIET BACKFIRE BOMBER. THE ADMINISTRATION, OFFICIALS SAID, IS STILL ASKING MOSCOW TO AGREE TO RESTRICTIONS ON THE DEPLOYMENT, REFUELING AND TRAINING PROCEDURES OF THE BACKFIRE, BUT SOVIET NEGOTIATORS ARE SAID TO BE ONLY WILLING TO SUPPLY THE FLIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AIRCRAFT AND TO PROMISE THAT IT WOULD NOT BE USED TO ATTACK THE UNITED STATES.

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